

**South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities
Minutes of Meeting – January 24, 2008**

The SD Council on Developmental Disabilities met on January 24, 2008 at the Holiday Inn Express in Ft. Pierre, SD.

Members Present

Hoby Abernathy for Brooke Lusk
Travis Arneson
Char Athey
Erik Brubakken
Deanne Curran
Vikki Day
Dee Gustaf
Jason Harris
Dillon Haug

Robert Kean
Ann Larsen
Pat Monson
Carol Ruen
Georgene Short Bull
Heather Stettinichs for Judy Struck
Lex Werdel
Ted Williams

Members not Present

Sarah Carda
Shannon Dirk
Grady Kickul

Kati Seymour
Kayla Tinker
Isabel Trobaugh

Others Present

Edith Arneson
Melissa Fluckey

Beth Henrichsen
Arlene Poncelet

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Chairperson Travis Arneson called the meeting to order. Introductions were completed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Vikki Day moved, seconded by Char Athey to approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held October 11-12, 2007. Motion carried.

Vikki Day moved, seconded by Ann Larsen to ratify the following actions taken by the Executive Committee on January 15, 2008. Motion carried.

- Approved \$2,155 of federal funds for Disability Roundtable
- Approved \$5,000 of federal funds for Achieve with Martial Arts
- Approved \$5,000 for Interventions for Persons Assisted with Sexual Offender Traits
- Approved extension of grant for Crossing the Bridge to Success
- Denied request for Prenatal Substance Exposure Methods and Materials Course

Arlene had asked for clarification on Mini-Grants when the application is for a conference that happens annually. She provided additional information with the

minutes of the Executive Committee meeting that showed the Executive Committee's minutes from the June 27, 2007 meeting stated that "because the conference changes focus each year, participants are different each year, and the speakers are different, it was felt that this request could continue to receive funding through the Mini-Grant process."

The Executive Committee had referred the mini-grant entitled Lighting the Way Autism Conference submitted by Augustana College to the full Council because it has been funded in the past. Lex Werdel moved, seconded by Char Athey to approve \$5,000 of federal funds for this mini-grant. Motion carried. Jason Harris abstained.

GRANT APPLICATION – PROVIDING INFORMATION AND RESOURCES TO SOUTH DAKOTA – Center for Disabilities

Heather Stettinichs from the Center for Disabilities presented to the group. The goal of this project is to provide developmental disabilities awareness, information, and resources to people in SD and maintain the Center for Disabilities' information and resource collection. Heather reviewed the last year's dissemination statistics and information. The numbers continue to increase, and people continue to access this service.

Discussion included

- Have requests for hard copies of the handbooks decreased? No, they have remained the same.
- Has the Center given up looking for other funding sources? No, the Center has not given up looking for other resources and will continue to look for other ways to fund these services.
- How does the Center get new resources and how are resources selected for purchase? Library staff sends Heather information on resources that are requested but not available through the library. Some resources are donated from other agencies and individuals. Donations are always welcome.

Jason Harris moved, seconded by Pat Monson to approve \$18,000 of federal funds for the project entitled "Providing Information and Resources to South Dakota." Motion carried. Heather Stettinichs abstained.

GRANT APPLICATION – MOBILIZING FOR SELF-ADVOCACY IN SOUTH DAKOTA YEAR THREE – Human Services Research Institute

Reena Wagle, Julie Petty, Chuck Henrie, Jackie Juhala, Sarah Dykstra, Erik Brubakken and Jaime Norwell presented to the group. The goal of this project for year three is to work with self-advocates solidifying the statewide network, and expanding their work to five new sites. They have identified four of the five new sites.

Discussion included:

- Has the project considered including youth (school age, etc.)? Yes, and this can be included in the planning during year 3.
- How long has HSRI been involved with projects like this in other states? HSRI's involvement is limited to the length of the projects, generally 3-4 years. The goal of HSRI with any project is to achieve a viable group within the time frames of the project.
- How many people are involved in each of the local groups? Rapid City People First has 30 members and this project has 10 involved. Spearfish People First has 6 people working on this project. Watertown People First has 25 members and this project has 10 involved. Sioux Falls has 6-7 involved with this project.
- In what other states is HSRI working on self-advocacy? Illinois, North Carolina, Virginia, Missouri, Montana, Utah, and Alabama
- Do the projects work with local businesses and organizations? The Watertown group has worked with the Mayor's Committee and Human Service Agency. In most areas, the adjustment training centers provide local support.
- When is the state conference going to be held? Planning will occur during year 3 of the project with the actual conference being held in 2009.
- When will the newsletter be started? During year 3.

GRANT APPLICATION – DARE TO DREAM CONFERENCE - ORGANIZED BY SD PARENT CONNECTION

Colette Wagoner (in person) and Nathan Anderson (via telephone) presented to the group on behalf of the Dare to Dream Conference Planning Committee. The Dare to Dream conference is a combination of emphasis on issues of interest to adults with disabilities as well as parents of children with disabilities. It offers education and networking opportunities to its participants.

BUDGET UPDATE

Arlene reviewed a handout on the budget available for projects. Currently, the Council is in Federal Fiscal Year 2008. Although the federal budget has been approved, the Council has not received the full grant award amount. To date, the FFY08 federal grant award received is \$49,306.

The Council's FFY07 federal funds are over-obligated by \$51,734.53. Of the FFY08 funds received (\$49,306), \$26,250.45 remain unobligated. There is one approved project not on the contract database for an amount of \$3,295. This leaves the Council's current status at \$28,779.08 over-obligated.

The estimated amount of funds available for projects from FFY08 federal grant award is an additional \$325,000. So, if all the applications for mini-grants and full grants being reviewed by the Council were funded today, that would leave \$98,221.92 available for future requests for funding.

PREVIEW OF COLLEGE OF DIRECT SUPPORT

Eileen VanSoest gave a demonstration of the College of Direct Support so the Council could better understand the process. There were a few technical difficulties, but she got through a few lessons.

GRANT APPLICATION – COLLEGE OF DIRECT SUPPORT (CDS) – SD Association of Community Based Services

Eileen Van Soest and Tom Scheinost presented to the group. The goals of this project are to increase societal respect for and recognition of people with disabilities, direct support professionals, and others having an impact on the lives of people with disabilities throughout the developmental disabilities system in SD; increase the tenure and retention, and thus reduce turnover and vacancy rates of direct support professionals in the community-based organizations participating in CDS in SD; and to continue efforts to encourage expansion of CDS and the College of Frontline Supervisors (CFS) in SD's educational system.

Discussion included:

- Have agencies implemented any incentives for completion of CDS? Yes, the Huron Area Center for Independence has started an incentive program of a \$.60 per hour raise to staff who complete the CDS.
- Could the Association look to Sanford or Avera for funding or to join CDS? Certainly a possibility. Tom has spoken with the Administration on Developmental Disabilities regarding funding for CDS nationwide. Other possible sources of funding include Medicaid as part of the administrative costs; specialized funding through the Division of DD; or as a line item from the Legislature.
- Could the price for CDS could be negotiated? Eileen explained that SD already gets a good deal on CDS because of the following points:
 1. We implemented CDS statewide. We got a deal on cost and also got CFS for no extra cost. The cost is based on the number of people supported by the agencies involved.
 2. Technical assistance is outstanding.
 3. Course review and addition of new courses as needed and on a regular basis at no added cost.
 4. Expected cost to increase 2%-3% for 3 years, then it will level off
 5. To keep CDS "fresh and new" courses are reviewed and updated yearly and to stay with the times, new courses are added, as well as mini courses currently planned on specific disabilities.
- What is the cost for each agency to participate? \$2800 for the site fee.
- Match from the ATCS has not changed in 5 years? Correct.

Tom invited Council members to participate in the CDS Project Workgroup meeting on February 1st.

GRANT APPLICATION – IN-SERVICE TRAINING – SD Association of Community Based Services

Tom Scheinost presented to the group. The goals of this project are to provide participants with state-of-the-art information regarding various topics related to the field of developmental disabilities and the people served.

Discussion included:

- If the number of people has dropped, how do you know those that attend are doing a better job of sharing information at their agencies? Through the post-session evaluations.
- Could a question be added to find out how many attendees are sharing information at their agencies and with how many others? Yes
- It was suggested that the directors may need to be more engaged with the training so that there is more possibility of the information being imbedded within the DD system. Tom suggested working through the Parallel Group members.
- Explain the Parallel Group. The Parallel Group is made up of one person from each ATC, SDDC, the Division of DD and the Center for Disabilities.
- Would this group exist without the grant? No
- How many years has the Council funded these trainings? Not sure exactly, but quite a while.
- How has this project collaborated with other groups in planning training activities? There has been a large amount of turnover on the Parallel Group. Only 6-7 members have been with the group more than 2 years. This past year, the group developed a procedures manual.
- Arlene shared one example of when more collaboration may have been beneficial. Kathie Snow was in Pierre for Partners on a Fri & Sat in November. She flew home to Colorado then on Monday flew back to Pierre for the Tues session through this grant. Tom shared that the Parallel Group and SD Advocacy did discuss some options but none worked for the groups.
- The mailing list provided in the grant does not appear to be very up-to-date. A couple of Council members mentioned that notice of the trainings is not always timely or far enough in advance for parents to attend.
- What is the average number of participants? 50 per training. Some like the author of "Riding the Bus with My Sister" had a lot more.

GRANT APPLICATION – YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM 2008 – Black Hills Special Services Cooperative

Bev Petersen, Transition Services Liaison Project, and Lincoln Waltner, YLF delegate from 2007, presented to the group. The goal of this project is to promote the employment of persons with disabilities more effectively by inspiring and preparing young people with disabilities to overcome the barriers to employment and social participation. YLF received 65 delegate applications this year. The people applying are from all over the state and have various disabilities. Lincoln presented a slideshow of his experience as a YLF participant. This year's YLF will be held June 15-19 at Northern State University in Aberdeen.

Discussion included:

- A question about the statistics in Lincoln's PowerPoint regarding the number of children with autism and that they seemed quite high. Bev will assist Lincoln to check those statistics.
- Is the DVD close-captioned? Bev thought that it was, yes.
- What is the selection criteria? A combination of things such as geographic/statewide representation; types of disability; ages; and year in school all play a role as well as how the student does during the interview process.
- Has the curriculum changed? Yes. It is basically the same from year to year but speakers and resources may be different. YLF added the community service portion two years ago and that has received good comments from both participants and the agencies that receive the assistance.

DISCUSSION & DECISIONS ON GRANT APPLICATIONS

YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM 2008

There was no additional discussion. Lex Werdel moved, seconded by Vikki Day, to approve \$10,000 of federal funds for the proposal entitled "Youth Leadership Forum 2008." Motion carried. Hoby Abernathy abstained.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING

The group discussed many of the points shared earlier regarding the number of participants getting smaller; concern that with the high turnover rates at ATCs the impact of this training grant was difficult to determine; how staff share the information when they go back to their agencies; length of time project has been funded; collaboration with other groups; offering opportunities for other groups to attend the training or to utilize the trainers while they are in South Dakota; and better advertising of the sessions so more people can attend (especially parents).

Deanne Curran moved, seconded by Jason Harris to approve \$6,500 of federal funds for the proposal entitled "In-Service Training." Ted Williams submitted a substitute motion, seconded by Char Athey that the Council fund \$9,197, which would pay for speakers only. Jason Harris submitted a substitute motion, seconded by Deanne Curran that we deny the proposal. Motion carried. Ted Williams and Carol Ruen abstained. The Council suggested the Association utilize the Council's Mini-Grant process for training events. Council members also suggested that the Association and Council members think of new ways to provide training so that more staff, people served, and parents can participate and benefit.

COLLEGE OF DIRECT SUPPORT (CDS)

In addition to the earlier discussion during the presentation, Council members had the following comments:

- This is year 5 of a project that came to us proposing a need for 3 years of funding. To date, the agencies benefiting from the training have not

increased their funding of this project. If agencies are willing to give more, it would show commitment.

- In order to increase retention, they must increase pay, but that may or may not be possible.
- Other states are doing other things to assist with the cost (information shared by Arlene).
- Originally the project wanted to eliminate or reduce the amount of on-site training for the agencies, but that hasn't necessarily happened.

Vikki Day moved, seconded by Char Athey to approve \$77,344 of federal funds for the proposal entitled "College of Direct Support." Jason Harris submitted a substitute motion, seconded by Deanne Curran to fund \$71,344. This amount was based on each of the 20 participating agencies paying an additional \$300 each; however, SDaCBS should decide how it wants to cover this \$6,000 (sliding fee scale, across the board to all agencies, etc.). Motion carried. Ted Williams, Carol Ruen, Heather Stettinichs, and Hoby Abernathy abstained.

DARE TO DREAM CONFERENCE

Jason Harris moved, seconded by Carol Ruen to approve \$12,500 of federal funds for the proposal entitled "Dare to Dream Conference." Motion carried. Deanne Curran and Heather Stettinichs abstained.

MOBILIZING FOR SELF-ADVOCACY IN SOUTH DAKOTA YEAR THREE

In addition to the earlier discussion, there was concern that HSRI is paying self-advocates when that should be a volunteer position; and it seems like a high cost with low impact shown to date. HSRI has approached Arlene regarding the possibility of funding during year 4 for the statewide conference. The group agreed that we committed to a three project and this meets our self-advocacy requirements through the DD Act.

Ann Larsen moved, seconded by Vikki Day to approve \$50,000 of federal funds for the proposal entitled "Mobilizing for Self-Advocacy in South Dakota Year Three." Motion carried. Erik Brubakken abstained.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Arlene brought a few copies of Shelly Pfaff's legislative updates and requested that anyone interested in receiving this directly from Shelly contact Arlene for information.

Nancee Johnson, Epilepsy Foundation lobbyist, presented to the group regarding House Bill 1311. This bill will prohibit the interchange of anti-epileptic drugs without prior notification and consent. She explained how epileptic drugs work, and the difference between generic and brand name drugs, and how they affect people with epilepsy. If you have a strong feeling about this, please contact your legislator. Or if any Council member is interested in testifying or sharing a story, they can let Arlene know and she will give this information to Ms. Johnson.

FUTURE REQUESTS FOR FUNDING

The group discussed the Movement to Self-Directed Services draft Request for Funding in the priority area of Building Capacity and Creating Systems Change within Community Service Providers. It is non-competitively open to the Division of Developmental Disabilities and SD Association of Community Based Services.

Jason Harris moved, seconded by Vikki Day to issue the Request for Funding in the amount of \$100,000. Motion carried. Carol Ruen abstained.

NEXT MEETING DATE & PLACE

The next meeting will tentatively be held in Mitchell on April 10 and/or 11 just prior to Partners in Policymaking's final weekend in Sioux Falls. This may be an opportunity for LifeQuest to share some of their experiences with the Good to Great project.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:13 pm.